United Nations S/2002/136

Security Council

Distr.: General
31 January 2002

Original: English

Letter dated 31 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from the Honourable Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia, in his capacity as Chairman of the Central Organ of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, I have the honour to forward herewith the text of a communiqué issued on 26 January 2002 by the Ministerial Meeting of the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution at its Eighth Ordinary Session, held in Tripoli, Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Prof. Mwelwa C. **Musambachime**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

02-23934 (E) 010202

[Original: English and French]

Annex to the letter dated 31 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE EIGHTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE OAU MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL

TRIPOLI, GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA 26TH JANUARY 2002

The Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution held its Eighth Ordinary Session at Ministerial level in Tripoli, Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 26 January 2002, to discuss the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR).

The Session, which was convened at the request of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, was chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia, Hon. Dr. Katele Kalumba. Ministers and other representatives from the following Member States of the Central Organ participated at the session: Zambia, Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gabon, Ghana, Lesotho, Libya, Namibia, South Africa, Senegal, Tanzania and Togo.

Other Member States of the OAU present at the session include: Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Mauritius, Nigeria, the Sudan and Tunisia.

The United Nations and CENSAD participated at the session as observers.

The opening session of the Central Organ was addressed by H.E. President Ange Felix Patasse of the Central African Republic.

At the end of its deliberations, the Central Organ:

1. **takes note** of the Report of the Secretary General on the situation in the Central African Republic [Central Organ/MEC/MIN/Ex-Ord/2 (VI)];

2. **expresses** serious concern at the precarious situation prevailing in the CAR and its potential for undermining regional security and stability;

3. **welcomes** and **supports** the initiatives taken by the CEN-SAD and the CEMAC (Central African Economic and Monetary Community) during their meetings held in Khartoum, The Sudan, and in Libreville, Gabon, on 3-4 and 5 December 2001 respectively, as well as the CEMAC Summit of 16th January 2002 held in Brazzaville, the Republic of Congo, all aimed at facilitating the speedy restoration of peace and stability in the country, including in particular the call for the adoption of an amnesty and the resumption of political dialogue in the CAR;

4. **reiterates** its commitment to OAU's Decisions and Declarations on the rejection of unconstitutional changes of Governments and on the strengthening of the democratization processes as well as the respect of human rights;

5. **pays tribute** to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for its timely and prompt action towards the restoration of constitutional order and support for the legitimate Government and Institutions of the Central African Republic, at the request of the latter. The Central Organ **calls on** other OAU Member States to extend similar support to the legitimate Government of CAR;

6. **urges** the parties in the Central African Republic to settle their differences through dialogue and **encourages** them to demonstrate a spirit of compromise and accommodation, and to work together to seek solutions acceptable to all on the basis of democratic principles, observance of human rights and good governance. In this respect, the Central Organ **takes note** of the appeals for national unity made by the authorities of the Central African Republic and the steps taken to improve the political and social climate in the country, including the announcement, on 24 December 2001, of the decision to put an end to all judicial proceedings instituted against former General François Bozize and his followers;

7 **appeals** to the parties in the CAR to facilitate the efforts deployed by the international community for the promotion of peace and stability in the CAR, in particular for the resumption of political dialogue through the convening of the meeting of political actors and civilian and military elements involved in the events of 2 November 2001, as agreed at the CEMAC Extraordinary Summit. The Central Organ **requests** the Secretary General to take the steps required for the OAU to contribute to this process;

8. **expresses** concern over the grave security problems facing the CAR and **stresses** the need to restore confidence among the parties, as part of the efforts aimed at achieving lasting peace and stability in the country;

9. **expresses appreciation** for the additional information provided to members of the Central Organ by H.E. Mr. Ange Félix Patassé President of the Central African Republic on the developments in his country and **commends** him for his commitment to spare no effort to consolidate peace and security in his country and to promote reconciliation and

dialogue. The Central Organ **takes note** of his request for the deployment of a peacekeeping force in the CAR ;

10. **appeals** to the Security Council to consider urgently and positively, the request to deploy a peace keeping force to consolidate peace and security in the CAR. In this respect, the Central Organ **further requests** the Secretary-General of the OAU to formally approach the UN Security Council to ensure the speedy deployment of such a Force. It also **takes note** of and **welcomes** the disposition of OAU Member States to contribute troops to the envisaged peacekeeping mission;

11. **Encourages** the CENSAD and CEMAC to take appropriate measures towards ensuring the consolidation of peace and security in the CAR, pending the deployment of a peacekeeping Force by the United Nations Security Council;

12. **requests** the Secretary General of the OAU to work closely with CENSAD and CEMAC to promote political reconciliation in the Central African Republic;

13. **appeals** to the international Community to provide the necessary technical and financial assistance for the reconstruction and the socio–economic development of the Central African Republic. In this respect, the Central Organ **welcomes** the decision of the CEN-SAD mini-Summit to establish a financial support Fund for the CAR, and expresses appreciation to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for its contribution of US $1,250,000, to the Fund. It also **takes note** of the donors meeting, held in Paris on 20 December 2001, and looks forward to a positive outcome of the forthcoming negotiations between the CAR Government and the Bretton Woods Institutions;

14. **encourages** the CAR authorities to pursue and speed-up the economic and financial reforms recommended by the

international financial Institutions and to take all appropriate steps to improve governance and the management of the resources of the country;

15. **requests** the Secretary-General of the OAU, in cooperation with the relevant Institutions, particularly, the ECA and the ADB, to examine the ways and means through which the OAU can make a contribution to socio-economic recovery in the CAR;

16. **takes note** of the initiatives of the Government of the CAR for the return of the refugees who had fled the country and **expresses appreciation** for the efforts deployed by the OAU Commission of Refugees and the UNHCR, in support of those efforts;

17. **pays tribute** to Brother Col. Muammar Gaddafi, Leader of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, President Omar Hassan El Bashir of the Republic of the Sudan and Current Chairman of CENSAD, President El Hadj Omar Bongo of the Gabonese Republic, as well as, to the CENSAD and CEMAC, for the efforts that have been deployed to bring peace and stability to the Central African Republic;

18. **commends** the United Nations and its mission in the Central African Republic (BONUCA) for the efforts so far made to assist the Government and people of the Central Africa Republic;

19. **expresses appreciation** to the leadership and people of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to all delegations and for the excellent facilities provided to ensure the success of the meeting.